

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1892.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE.

THE APPROPRIATIONS TO BE RECOMMENDED FOR THE COMING YEAR.

\$25,000 Recommended for Road Purposes—No Recommendation Made for the Fire Appropriation.

Messrs. Gilbert, Halfpenny, Rayner, and Hummel were the only Committee-men present at the regular meeting on Monday night. The recommendations for the ensuing year were fixed by the Committee.

The first item taken up was public grounds. Mr. Rayner, Chairman of that Committee, moved that \$500 be devoted to that purpose.

Mr. Gilbert thought that \$350 was sufficient. He said that the Committee ought to cut down wherever it was possible, in order to apply all the money to roads.

Mr. Rayner said \$500 might seem a large amount, but it took every dollar of it to keep the park in the condition that it has been kept in in the past.

"The park," Mr. Rayner said, "is one of the most beautiful features of our town." Mr. Rayner differed with those who regard the park as only beneficial to residences adjoining it. He looked upon it as an advantage to the whole town, irrespective of locality. It was admired by visitors, the pride of our own town, and the envy of adjoining towns. The manual labor and the material required to keep it in fine order necessitated an expenditure of at least \$500. That sum was recommended.

Mr. Gilbert suggested that no appropriation be made for the maintenance of the poor. The revenue from license fees was \$4,500, and Mr. Voorhees had informed him that the revenue from that source was sufficient without additional appropriation. This item was passed over.

The Committee proposed to make a very large appropriation for road work. Mr. Rayner favored such a plan, but intimated that he was going to ask for an increased appropriation for the Fire Department, and his vote on the road appropriation would be for such an amount as would reserve sufficient for the Fire Department.

In order that Mr. Rayner might not be hampered in his vote on the road question, Mr. Halfpenny moved that the Fire Department recommendation take precedence of that of roads. Fire matters were then taken up.

Mr. Rayner said that the current expenses of the Department were about \$2,200. The appropriation last year was \$2,500, and there was on hand at the beginning of the year an unexpended balance of \$600, making a total of \$3,100 at the disposal of the Committee, all of which had been expended but a small balance. Nine hundred dollars of it had been used for new carriages, and about \$2,200 for current expenses.

Mr. Rayner said that next year the four indicators put in by the Gamewell Fire-Alarm Company at a cost of \$600 would have to be paid for, or ordered taken out of the fire-houses. The Gamewell Company put them in on condition that if the town did not wish to purchase them at the end of a year they would take them out. The town has now used them about fifteen months. There is also an electric clock to be paid for, costing \$50.

Mr. Rayner referred to the urgent request of the Chief Engineer that 2,000 feet of new hose be purchased. He said he had made a personal inspection of the hose and found that out of 3,750 feet in possession of the Department only 1,250 feet of hose was in good condition. He said the matter was a serious one, and it known to insurance companies would have a material effect on the insurance rates charged. Mr. Rayner said that while it would be impossible to purchase 2,000 feet, as requested by the Chief, he thought that at least 1,000 feet should be procured. The quality of hose used costs about eighty cents per foot. To purchase the indicators, clock, and new hose and meet the current expenses of the Department, he moved an appropriation of \$3,500.

Mr. Halfpenny opposed such a large appropriation for fire purposes. He said the firemen had been treated with great liberality in the past. Their every demand had been acceded to. A great many people were of the opinion that the Fire Department was costing too much. As to the proposed indicators, he was still of the same opinion that he held over a year ago when they were put in. He did not believe they were needed, and should be ordered out. They were not to be depended on, and the firemen made very little use of them. He thought that it would be better and cheaper to put a striking apparatus in Excelsior and Active hose-houses.

Mr. Halfpenny read from a list of current expenses of the Department, and mentioned a number of items of expense that would not have to be incurred another year. He moved that

\$2,500 be recommended for fire purposes.

Mr. Gilbert opposed an increase of the fire appropriation. He said the Fire Department had never yet been put to the forced economy that other branches of public work had, and he thought it was time the firemen stood back and gave the Committee a chance to do all it could on roads. A vote was taken on the question, which resulted in a tie—Rayner and Hummel voting aye and Gilbert and Halfpenny no.

Mr. Rayner said he was satisfied to let the matter go before the town meeting for the people to decide.

The question of road construction was next taken up. Mr. Gilbert said that a great deal of the stone road in the town was out of repair and would have to be attended to during the ensuing year or it would be entirely destroyed.

Mr. Rayner made a long address on the subject of a large appropriation for roads. He said that the main question to be kept in view was the effect on the tax rate. He cited an array of figures to demonstrate how at least \$20,000 could be appropriated for the various branches of road work without increasing the tax rate over that of last year. He said that the appropriations last year footed up \$47,800. This year the \$3,000 for road surveys, \$3,000 for removing obstructions from Newark Avenue, \$500 for the Montgomery Street bridge, \$500 for poor account, and \$500 for cobblestone gutters were eliminated from the list, leaving \$7,500 at the command of the Committee. He also stated that taking past years as a basis, the Committee might safely reckon on an increase in valuations of at least \$200,000, which at the rate of \$2.50 would give \$500 additional tax receipts, making a total of \$12,500, which added to the appropriations of last year, would give the Committee \$20,000 to spend on roads without increasing taxes, which could be divided as follows: \$13,000 for stone road construction, \$5,000 for stone road repairs, and \$2,000 for dirt road repairs.

Mr. Rayner said he had given the matter of roads careful consideration. He felt that the people respected the recommendations of the Committee from the fact that they believed that such recommendations were based on experience and judgment. He believed that a liberal appropriation for roads would do much towards allaying the feeling of resentment in Glen Ridge. He opposed bonding the town at the present time, and thought that greater satisfaction would result from a larger appropriation.

Mr. Halfpenny said that the statistics furnished by the gentleman from the Third Ward evidenced that he had carefully considered the matter. He said the figures demonstrated that the Committee had \$27,000 at its disposal for road work. He advised keeping each item distinct—so much for dirt-road repairs, so much for stone-road repairs, and so much for stone-road construction. He favored \$2,000 for the first, \$5,000 for the second, and \$20,000 for the third. This increased expenditure would enable the Committee to build deeper roads.

Mr. Halfpenny referred to the Glen Ridge request last year for a four-inch road, which had turned out very unsatisfactory. In future he thought the Committee ought not to heed such requests.

A vote was taken on the amounts, resulting as follows: Stone-road construction, \$18,000; stone-road repairs, \$5,000; dirt-road repairs, \$2,000.

For sidewalk construction Mr. Halfpenny, Chairman of the Sidewalk Committee, said that there was an unexpended balance of \$500 in the hands of the Committee, and he thought \$2,500 was enough for the purpose next year, but the Committee finally decided to recommend \$3,000.

In the matter of maps and surveys, it was stated the account was overdrawn \$116.95. Mr. Halfpenny said that some measure should be devised to prevent overdrawing that account. The Committee had no way of determining what such work was worth.

Mr. Gilbert said it was a hard matter to limit the cost of professional services.

Mr. Halfpenny replied that when there were three or more members in a Committee whose personal experience lead them to form a correct opinion of the value of certain kinds of professional service, the Committee cannot go far astray, but this Committee had no surveyor among its members.

Five hundred dollars was recommended for this appropriation.

The total recommendations were as follows:

Stone road construction	\$18,000
Dirt road repairs	5,000
Stone road repairs	2,000
Sidewalks	3,000
Maps and surveys	500
Professional services	500
Excelsior and Active hose-houses	500
Total	\$29,500

Timely Advice.

Right word at the right season. I am ready to clean your carpets with the least possible inconvenience to you. D. Douglas, Jr., No. 5-9 Park St., Montclair, N. J.—Adv.

\$8,000 TOO MUCH.

CHAIRMAN GILBERT ASSERTS THAT THE APPROPRIATIONS WERE EXCEEDED.

Members of the Committee Were Doubtful, but Mr. Gilbert Gives the Figures.

A few months ago an item appeared in THE CITIZEN to the effect that the Township Committee had expended more money this year than it was likely to receive, but the statement was promptly contradicted. On Monday night the Committee discussed a motion to transfer from the back taxes sufficient amounts to balance up accounts that were overdrawn. The Chairman, Mr. Gilbert, said that he favored Mr. Cocke-fair's idea of not spending back taxes until they had been paid in. Mr. Cocke-fair stoutly opposed all expenditures that were made in anticipation of the income from back taxes.

Mr. Gilbert asserted that the Committee had spent an excess of appropriations to the amount of nearly \$8,000, which was more than the receipts from back taxes would cover. The Chairman's statement was doubted, and Mr. Rayner said that he was positive that no sub-committee of which he was chairman had exceeded its appropriation, and he thought that in justice to the whole Committee the Chairman should furnish proof of his statement. Mr. Gilbert read from a list the amounts to which different accounts had been overdrawn as follows: Contingent account, \$4,186.40; maps and surveys, \$116.75; police, \$228.25; road repairs, \$65.31; road construction, \$967.77; dirt roads, \$1,153.24; and sidewalk grading, \$655.18.

In addition to the above the Chairman said there were a number of unpaid claims against the town.

Mr. Rayner expressed surprise at the condition of affairs. He said that there was no doubt but when money in excess of the appropriations had been spent it was done by resolution of the Committee.

The Montgomery Street Bridge.

It is now about a year since the Township Committee entered into negotiations with the Lehigh Valley Railroad about a new bridge over the canal at Montgomery Street. The company has the material on the ground with which to carry on the work. Eliza M. Moore of Montgomery Street asked the Town Committee on Monday night why the bridge had not been built. Chairman Gilbert informed him that a form of agreement had been drawn up, signed by the Committee and forwarded to the railway company, and they had refused to sign it. Mr. Gilbert said the Committee could not force the company to build the bridge. It was a matter for mutual agreement, and the railway company were very jealous of their rights.

Burglars Rob Smith E. Perry.

The storage warehouse of Lawyer Smith E. Perry on Glenwood Avenue was broken into one night this week. Entrance was effected by removing the sash in a lower window. The thieves took a large mirror and a number of trinkets, valued in all at about fifty dollars. They also stole a bunch of keys, and Mr. Perry says if they will kindly return these, he will allow them to keep the other articles.

A Superintendent of Public Works.

The Town Committee next year will create a new appointive office, that of Superintendent of Public Works. It will be the duty of the man appointed to see that contractors for road and sidewalk work live up to the specifications of their contracts. The reason given for the need of such an officer is that Township Committee-men cannot give such work the close personal attention that it requires.

Mr. Carl's Organ Recitals.

The first of the series of free Wednesday afternoon organ recitals to be given by Mr. Carl occurs next Wednesday, at four o'clock, at the First Presbyterian Church, New York (Fifth Avenue and Twelfth Street). Miss Jennie Dutton, soprano, and Mr. D. G. Henderson, tenor, will be the soloists at the recital. No tickets have been issued.

Malignant Mischief.

Hadley P. Cadmus of the firm of Stewart & Cadmus of Bloomfield Avenue made complaint to the police that some malicious person broke open a barrel of cement and destroyed a large flagstone in front of his place of business on Friday night. He will pay a reward for information that will lead to the arrest of the miscreant.

The Real Estate Agents Are Ready For Them.

Spring is about on us. Every fine day will bring visitors from the city looking for a summer residence. Investors will begin looking around for building-sites.

Hopler is selling bananas at 25c per dozen.—Adv.

CHRISTIANS AND SALOONS.

The Rev. C. A. Cook Touched on This Subject Last Sunday.

In a sermon preached by the Rev. Charles A. Cook last Sunday morning on the text "Am I my Brother's Keeper?" the responsibility for the existence of so many saloons in the town was placed upon the Christian people, who have it in their power, if they would only unite, to remove them. He said, "As I think of that cursed ruin of the bodies and souls of men—the saloon—which exists in any community, at least in such a community as this, through the silent unprotesting permission of the professed Christians of the community, as I remember that the saloon exists somehow, I am not prepared to say how, because the Christian people refuse to unite for its removal or restriction, then I feel that we are indeed responsible. We are our brother's keeper. For if through the existence of the saloon the young men of the town by scores become drunkards, and fall into a drunkard's grave and a drunkard's hell, if wretchedness and death are caused, then somebody is responsible. I believe God has made the churches of Bloomfield their brother's keeper, and if by their uniting the Christian people in this town could remove these pitfalls which are causing the ruin of so many, then I believe that in the day of judgment God will hold us responsible for their existence. Nor can we throw off this responsibility by saying, 'It doesn't affect me; if men will drink and go down to perdition, what is that to me? Am I my brother's keeper? We are our brother's keeper as far as it is in our power to remove out of his way those things which we know are an injury to him.'"

This passage in the sermon has caused considerable comment, and is published by special request of some who heard it. Mr. Cook informs us that he intends in a few weeks to deliver a series of sermons on the saloon question, and review the whole matter from a Christian standpoint.

The Berkeley School Litigation.

The litigation in which Contractor Harry L. Campbell involved the Board of School Trustees in connection with the building of the new Berkeley School drags its way slowly through the courts. The contest is between several claimants for money that would have gone to Campbell had he completed the work. The Chancellor will give the litigants a hearing on the 18th or 19th of May. A Mr. Clifford, who has the largest claim, is represented by ex-Judge Tutthill, the Wightman Bros. by C. H. Halfpenny, and the workmen by E. A. Rayner. Gallagher, Richards & Dodd represent the School Trustees.

Abel Baker Married.

Abel Baker of No. 113 Linden Avenue, the well-known grocer, and Miss Alzina Taylor were united in marriage at the home of the bride's father at Clifton Park, N. Y., at noon on Wednesday. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. G. E. Stockwell of the Mechanicsville M. E. Church, and was witnessed only by the near relatives of the family. After a wedding breakfast the happy couple left on a trip to Philadelphia and Washington. Upon their return they will reside in this place.

Death of George B. Earl.

George B. Earl, a well-known and highly respected resident of this town, died on Wednesday morning at his residence on Ridgewood Avenue, after a brief illness from Bright's disease. Mr. Earl had been connected with the R. G. Dun Mercantile Agency for the past thirty years. He leaves a wife and two children. Funeral services were held at his late residence yesterday afternoon. Interment in Bloomfield Cemetery.

An Address by Mrs. Ellis.

Under the auspices of the Watsessing Women's Christian Temperance Union, Mrs. J. T. Ellis, State Secretary, will deliver an address in Bethel Presbyterian Church, corner Dodd Street and Midland Avenue, East Orange, next Wednesday evening, at eight o'clock. Mr. and Mrs. Sturgis will sing. Admission free.

Why Not Work for It?

Field Day of the Uniformed Rank, Knights of Pythias, would bring several thousand dollars into this town if it were held here. Bloomfield Division should appoint a committee at once and canvass the town in order to find what the public sentiment is. It would bring visitors from all over the State and give the town a liberal advertising.

Injured by the Machinery.

Martin Graham of New Street, an employee in T. Oakes & Co.'s woolen mills, had his right arm injured in the machinery last Monday.

Confirmed by the Bishop.

Bishop Starkey was at Christ Church on Wednesday night and administered the rite of confirmation to a class numbering fifteen.

NO CAUSE FOR ALARM.

MR. SEIBERT EXPLAINS WHY THE ACCOUNTS WERE OVERDRAWN.

Paying Debts Contracted by Old Committee—Unforeseen Expenses—Members of the Committee Do Not Fear Criticism.

Conservative citizens familiar with the methods of conducting township business will not attach any great importance to the fact that the Committee of this year has exceeded the appropriations in its expenditures. They will first inquire into the causes that led to the excess of expenditures, and if it appears that a satisfactory return has been made for the money and that the money was from back taxes which the Committee had a right to spend they will be satisfied with the state of affairs. Every year appropriations are exceeded in some form or another, and unpaid orders are left over for an ensuing Committee to meet.

It would perhaps be impossible to select a body of men who would undertake to conduct the affairs of a growing township like this and abide by the strict letter of the law in so doing. Of necessity some matters must be determined by an exercise of judgment on the part of the members of the Committee.

The present Township Committee has spent more money than was appropriated at the Town Meeting by nearly eight thousand dollars. It will of course be expected that the receipts from back taxes have been unusually large and that considerable more work has been done.

Charles L. Seibert, the Township Treasurer, was interviewed in regard to the state of affairs. He said that up to September 4 of the current year he received from Collector A. C. Marr \$10,900 of back taxes, which was \$4,000 more than he received up to the same date last year. Since that date he has received from the Collector \$46,820.02. How much of that is back taxes and how much license fees he has no means of determining, as the Collector did not furnish a detailed monthly statement. If the taxes due from the two sources, amounting to between four and five thousand dollars, had been received every obligation of the town would have been met and the township finances, as far as the Committee is responsible, would have been in a better shape than ever before.

As to unpaid orders Mr. Seibert says that every previous Committee has left unpaid bills at the expiration of its term. One year water and gas bills amounting to \$6,121 were left unpaid. Every Committee has had to transfer back taxes to different accounts to balance over-expenditures.

Even the model Committee of last year, which prided itself on economy, left bills unpaid—one in particular of \$3,983 due to Contractor Callahan and one from Mr. Cocke-fair's Committee amounting to \$33.75.

In regard to the expenditures of this year, Mr. Seibert said the Committee was under contract to meet obligations of an extraneous character in addition to the current expenses, and in other instances the whole Committee directed by resolutions that certain work be done and paid out of back taxes.

The contingent account, which appears so large, was subject to very heavy drafts. More than one thousand dollars was paid to R. F. Stevens for work on the tax accounts. That item was a debt contracted in the previous year; Engineer Bassett and Owen \$500 for preliminary work on sewerage, contracted by previous Committee; F. N. Moffat \$239.45 for street signs, a piece of work made compulsory on the part of the Committee by the postal authorities; moving of the Town Committee offices and fitting up new apartments over \$500, a piece of work approved by the public; W. L. Johnson, assistant to Collector Marr, \$200; a road-scraping machine for dirt roads, \$237.66. This last item is deemed one of best expenditures the town ever made, as it enables a greater amount of work to be done on dirt roads than could possibly be done under the old method. The election expenses were heavier than in any previous year. Last year there was transferred to the contingent account from back taxes \$2,493.23.

The maps and surveys account was overdrawn owing to the fact that the Committee paid a long-standing bill of Mr. Reimer's, amounting to \$131, which they did not contract, but there was no doubt but what it was a just bill. The road repair account has exceeded that of last year by \$500 on account of an old debt for which the Road Committee was not responsible. In road work this year a large amount of money has been spent in grading Montgomery Street, \$2,236.50. The School Trustees forced the Committee to grade Berkeley Place. Belleville Avenue was graded at considerable expense. In grading Montgomery Street the Committee was enabled to fill

Orchard Street, a job which if it had been undertaken independently would have cost several hundreds of dollars.

In conclusion, Mr. Seibert said that the township report would show the people how and where the money had been spent, and his experience in township affairs had taught him that no matter what was done it would be impossible to escape the criticism of a few, but as long as every cent spent was accounted for he felt assured that the majority of the people would take a common-sense view of things.

The Police Made a Raid.

The entire police force paid a visit to a canal-boat at the head of the inclined plane on Sunday evening and captured a gang of tramps who had been making the boat a rendezvous at night, and during the daytime going about from house to house begging. The fellows were taken before Justice Post, where they gave their names as Michael McGrath, William E. Crane, Edward Peele, Edward Campbell, John L. Sullivan, alias "Yank Hudson," and George Washington Graham. The men were all strangers with the exception of Crane, who is a son of respectable parents. The Justice concluded to discharge them with the warning that they must leave town within twenty-four hours, to which they all agreed.

Seeing the Continent.

A splendid opportunity for seeing the continent under most interesting circumstances, and at a very small cost, will be given the people of Bloomfield next Thursday evening. A magnificent illustrated lecture will be given in the Baptist Church by the Rev. Halsey Moore, D. D. The subject will be "Our Continent as a Field for Christian Endeavor." A silver collection will be taken to cover expenses. No one should miss this.

A Hot Cinder Fell On Him.

Theodore Arkwright, a carpenter residing on upper Broad Street, met with a singular accident on Wednesday night while on his way home. As he was passing under the New York and Greenwood Lake Railway bridge a train was crossing, and a hot cinder from the locomotive fell on him and got under the collar of his shirt igniting it. He was badly burned before he extinguished the flame.

Dr. Hall Will Not Attend.

Dr. Hall has unfortunately been obliged to recall his promise to preach the Dedication Sermon in Westminster Church. A substitute has not been selected yet, but a full notice of all the services and speakers will be published in next week's CITIZEN. The new organ will be opened on Wednesday, April 6, by a concert. Tickets now on sale. The first religious services will be held on Sunday, April 10.

Collided With a Horse-Car.

A milk wagon driven by A. W. Squier was run into by horse car No. 10 of the Orange and Bloomfield line on Thursday morning at Almira Street. Squier was turning his wagon around and did not notice the car coming. The driver of the car was inside attending, he says, to the fire. The wagon was badly demolished by the collision, but no one hurt. Mr. Squier intends to have a settlement with the company.

Young People's Evening.

An instrumental and vocal musicale will be given by the Young People's Evening in the Sunday-school room of the First Presbyterian Church next Monday night. Among those who will furnish the programme are the Mozart Club, J. R. Mix of Orange, Mrs. H. W. Ballantine, soloist, with violin obligato by C. M. Parker; Arthur Davis, Mrs. A. R. Pierson, Miss Grace Thomas, and Miss Freeman.

The Indicators Do Not Work.

Complaint is made by the firemen that the indicators in the fire houses are worthless as they do not work properly. On the occasion of the alarm last Monday when box 25 was pulled the indicator at the Truck House indicated only two. Some members of the department assert that cheaper and better indicators than those in use in this town can be obtained.

Married Last December.

Emma L. Kneoppler of Myrtle Street and Ernest Duncan of Bergen were quietly married at the Baptist Church, Eightieth Street and the Boulevard, New York, by the pastor of the church, the Rev. P. Halderman, on December 28, 1891.

His Leg Again Broken.

John Coleman, the Liberty Street oil-dealer, who had just recovered from the effects of a broken leg, in alighting from his wagon on Monday last fell and again fractured the bone. He will be confined to his home for several months.

Best cuts of roast beef 16c and 18c at Hopler's.—Adv.